

IN THE CLAIMS:

The following is a complete listing of claims in this application.

Claims 1-14 (canceled).

15. (new) Powder product for the protection of centrifugal casting molds used for the manufacture of cast iron pipes, comprising a mixture of:

at least one inoculating alloy;

at least one strongly reducing metal that is volatile at the temperature of liquid cast iron; and

optionally inert mineral powder.

16. (new) Product according to claim 15, wherein the at least one inoculating alloy comprises a mixture of a plurality of inoculating alloys.

17. (new) Product according to claim 15, wherein the at least one strongly reducing metal is an element in column II of the periodic table of elements.

18. (new) Product according to claim 17, wherein the at least one strongly reducing metal is an element in subgroup IIa of the periodic table of elements.

19. (new) Product according to claim 18, wherein the at least one strongly reducing metal is magnesium or calcium.

20. (new) Product according to claim 15, wherein the at least one strongly reducing metal comprises 0.3 to 18% by weight of the product.

21. (new) Product according to claim 15, wherein the at least one strongly reducing metal is added in the form of at least one non-ferrous alloy.

22. (new) Product according to claim 21, wherein the at least one non-ferrous alloy contains less than 10% by weight of Fe.

23. (new) Product according to claim 22, wherein the at

least one non-ferrous alloy is an SiCa alloy containing, by weight:

Si 58 - 65%; Ca 27 - 35%; Fe 2 - 7%; Al 0.4 - 2%.

24. (original) Product according to claim 22, containing between 15 and 40% by weight of said SiCa alloy.

24. (new) Product according to claim 19, containing between 0.5 and 2% by weight of magnesium.

25. (new) Product according to claim 15, containing between 0.2 and 15% by weight of said inert mineral powder.

26. (new) Product according to claim 25, wherein the inert mineral powder is selected from the group consisting of calcium fluoride, magnesium fluoride and mixtures thereof.

27. (new) Process for manufacturing a powder product for the protection of centrifugal casting molds used for the manufacture of cast iron pipes, comprising at least one inoculating alloy, at least one strongly reducing metal that is volatile at the temperature of liquid cast iron and optionally inert mineral powder, comprising forming a powder premix of the at least one strongly reducing metal and the inert mineral powder, and mixing the powder premix with the at least one inoculating alloy in powder form.

28. (new) Process according to claim 27, wherein the at least one strongly reducing metal constitutes 15 to 60% by weight of the premix.